

limited how much of that could be used to offset the deficit funding for transit systems in the cities. We have a few dozen transit systems, believe it or not. And, except for Lincoln and Omaha, every transit system gets back 50 cents on the dollar of their deficit. If Lincoln and Omaha got back 50 cents on the dollar of their deficit, we would need another 7.5 to 8 million dollars, so that the taxpayers in those two cities, see I got cut off as soon as that happened, you notice that, so that those...but now the taxpayers in those communities offset, through property taxes, the cost of running that transit system. We're not complaining, but it's important for us to know once in a while the price people pay in certain areas for certain services, and this is one of the most important, interesting examples. I support the effort by Senator Hillman because, outside of Lincoln and Omaha, irregardless of how the cost is supplemented or supported, there is a need, obviously, for people with medical problems for a number of other things already identified, that there be some kind of a system between communities so that services normally available in places like Lincoln and Omaha could be and should be available to those not living in those communities as well. It is, in that sense, a fairness issue, and it makes good sense, and I intend to support it.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Does anyone else wish to speak to this bill? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Hillman?

SENATOR HILLMAN: The only thing that I would mention is that it's a two-edged sword, but the \$150,000 is General Funds, it does not come from current highway funds, that would be the matching funds. The only thing that comes from the current highway funds is a federal allocation of matching, or 150,000 or we're matching theirs. And so it is General Fund money. I would only ask that you consider the needs of the citizens throughout the State of Nebraska, and that you would advance the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hillman. We will now vote on the motion to advance LB 158. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 1 nay, Madam President, on the advancement of 158.